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Newsletter

Number 31

7 December 2012

Website www.matarau.school.nz

Phone / Fax (09) 433 5823 Email – admin@matarau.school.nz



Thanks

- .. To those who attended this week's Team Athletics day and to Mrs Robertson for organising such a fantastic day.
- .. To those who supported our Year 5 and 6 Interschool Athletics Team.
- .. To Beldon Taylor who has kindly offered to advise the board on the condition of the school roofs.
- .. Mr Schuster and the School Council for organising our school discos.
- .. To Wendy Mortimer for going beyond the call of duty to ensure a child's injured ankle was strapped correctly at the Yr 5 & 6 Interschool Athletics.

People of the week

- .. Max who was noticed this week cheering on a fellow participant in an athletics event. The truly remarkable thing is that this student had the potential to topple Max from his placing in this event .. incredible sportsman ship Max!
- .. Jared for outstanding leadership of his house athletics team this week.
- .. Our home gardeners .. apparently your gardens were just fantastic.

Congratulations

- .. To the following nominees for this year's Citizenship Cup. We congratulate you (and your parents) on your nomination.

Shannon	Emily	Cameron
Laura	Liam	Corey
Daniel	Hazel	

Staff and students are in the process of casting their votes with the recipient announced at Prize Giving next week.

Congratulations also to the following students who broke school records during our recent Lunchtime Athletics Competitions.

	Event	New Record	Previous Record
Tama	Year 4 Long Jump	3.95 m	3.91 m
Julia	Year 4 Long Jump	3.60 m	3.24 m
Breanna	Year 5 Long Jump	3.80 m	3.52 m
Breanna	Year 5 Discus	19.0 m	14.48 m
Natasha	Year 6 Long Jump	4.15 m	3.93 m
Natasha	Year 6 High Jump	1.20 m	1.18 m

Coming up this term

- 11 December BoT meeting
- 12 December Reports sent home
- 13 December School Prize Giving
- 18 December Final day of school (.. finish mid-day)

Art Exhibits

- .. can still be viewed in the office foyer.

2012 Prize Giving Parents and Extended Family

Please keep the evening of Thursday 13th December free for our annual prize giving.
The evening will start at 7:00pm and will conclude approx 8.30pm with a supper.

Grandparents are welcome.

Families are asked to bring two plates please for a shared supper

– to be placed on tables which will (hopefully) be set up in the hall.

Remember that attendance on this night is quite optional for 5 year olds
(all other children are asked to be present please).

A reminder that, if weather necessitates prize giving will be held 7:00 PM Monday 17 December.

End of Year Prizegiving – Pre-schoolers

If you have a pre-schooler who will be attending prize giving and you would like them to get a small bag of goodies on the night please give Helen a call on Monday.

ALSO .. if we proceed with an outdoor prize giving (**weather permitting**) we ask that parents of pre-schoolers supervise their children closely to ensure that the children on the stage are properly acknowledged. **Please ensure pre-schoolers do not play on the nearby junior playground.** We will set up some DVDs in the library in case some time out is needed.

Final day of School

Please note that school will finish at 12:00 (mid-day) on Tuesday 18 December. Although buses will run around 3 hours earlier on this day please expect some variation in drop off time as it is impossible to predict loadings on the final day of school. Parents who pick their children up from school are asked to do so at this earlier time please.

Maths Labs

Please note that maths labs finished this week. Mrs Donaldson is happy to chat with parents of children involved about their child's progress over their period of placement and some possible next steps. If you would like to take advantage of this opportunity, Katie will be available in her room from around 3:15 PM on Wednesday 12 December .. please just wait outside if she has another parent in the room and help by limiting discussions to only a few minutes if there is a parent waiting. A special thanks to Mrs Donaldson to the work she has put in to this programme .. most children have made very pleasing progress.

Holiday Reading Programme

It is a pretty well documented fact that achievement drops off for some children over the summer break (an internationally recognised phenomenon). This year (as we did at the end of last year) we will be providing opportunities for children to continue their reading through the summer break. More to follow next week.

Reports

Reports will be issued 12 December. The report contains statements on your child's effort and attainment in key learning areas and with respect to their social skills and work habits. These statements are summative – meaning that they have been formed after consulting multiple sources of information gathered over the course of the year. They also incorporate teacher judgements based on literally thousands of interactions with your child over the course of the year. Although this report is principally for you, please feel free to share it with your child. Draw attention to their successes and perhaps identify some areas for future focus.

Finally, remember that no single method of reporting should stand alone. Impressions need to be weighed against those from other methods of reporting including early and mid year interviews, portfolios, student achievement data and so forth. Please congratulate your child on our behalf for the gains they have made. This year's reports also contain a statement on your child's achievement in relation to the National Standards.

Year 3 Portfolios

Very soon Portfolio's for Year 3's will be sent home. These are not required to be returned as new ones will be issued at the beginning of Year 4 and will remain with them until Year 8.

Year 7 and 8 Camp 2013

Parents of prospective year 7 and 8 students will know that Camp Auckland is scheduled for week 6 of term 1 (11-15 March). Parents are asked to return the "Expression of Interest" forms sent out earlier. Costs will be kept to a minimum but there will be a likely cost to families of around \$210 per student. Any questions please to Mr D.

Senior Paintball

Any outstanding consents must be returned to school by Monday please. Thanks to those accompanying us and to the Glendinnings for the use of their swimming pool.

Lost Property

We will do our best to reunite children with lost property items but parents are also encouraged to drop by to look through the lost property bin (kept between rooms 10 and 11). Please note that items left unclaimed at terms' end will be donated to charities.

Senior Disco

7-9pm on Friday 7th December. Bring \$2 and a plate of finger food per family. This disco will be held for Years 4-8's only. **As advised earlier this week this event will now take place in the Ruatangata Hall.** Parents will need to collect their children from the school hall at 9pm.

Leaving Books (Year 8)

Thank you parents for assisting in the purchase of a suitable book for your child. **Books are to be returned to school no later than Monday 10th December please.** Still quite a few to come back.

2013 School Stationery

As for 2012, stationery will need to be ordered online via the OfficeMax website - www.myschool.co.nz



Search for Matarau School and then your child's class. You will find complete class stationery lists with unit prices. Again as for 2012, the school has passed on its reward points to families, gaining you a further 10% cost advantage (the only school in NZ that has done this). Orders can be placed across the holidays for delivery before school starts. A brochure with current specials is included with this newsletter. If you do not have internet access please contact Helen for a printed list.

Classes for 2013

Class lists for 2013 will be displayed on the hall notice board on the afternoon of 14 December.

Parent Helpers Morning Tea – 11 December 2012

Parents / caregivers who have helped at school in any way this year are invited to a morning tea to be held in the staffroom on

Tuesday 11 December starting 10:30am.

This is our chance to thank you for the difference you have made to our school.

To help with catering please give Helen a call on Monday if you think you will be there.

Farewell

We are sad to announce the departure from our staff of Mrs Williams and Mrs Dow. Mrs Williams has been offered a position at Whangarei Girls' High School and Mrs Dow is leaving to have her first child. We are grateful to both of these teachers for the contributions they have made to our school. Mrs Williams has been a much valued colleague since her appointment here 5 years ago. She is an exceptional teacher and she will be sorely missed. Mrs Dow has also done a sterling job in room 10 and we hope to see her back in the classroom some time in the future. Although we will formally farewell these teachers at prize giving you might well like to tap them on the shoulder to personally express your appreciation for their work some time over the next week and a half.

Staffing for 2013

.. will be confirmed in next week's newsletter when appointments are finalised.

Final word

Prize Giving is an important opportunity to acknowledge the exceptional achievements of our students across a variety of domains. We invite you to join with us next week in making each child's moment on the stage a special one. See you there.

Regards,
Kevin Trehwella
PRINCIPAL

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Never²Land 2012 Production

Here is your opportunity to preserve your memory of this years epic retelling of the rivalry between Peter Pan and Hook. DVD's are now on order through the School office. Limited stock, first in first served. Cost \$15. Orders close 7th December 2012. DVD's will be sent home by the end of Week 9.



Community Notices

For Sale - Jack Russell puppies. Ready for Christmas \$250. Can hold till after Christmas. Ph Jenny 4355336 or 0273258617.

For Sale - Sheep Manure. Fundraiser to go to Molesworth Station. Call Michelle Martin on 4335061

KAMO AMATEUR SWIMMING CLUB Kamo High School Pool, Wilkinson Ave, Kamo. *New members wanted.* **Stroke improvement classes** - Monday & Friday afternoons from 4.30pm For further enquiries contact Chris 433 5099 or Helen 433 5823 or Sharon 027 631 9361

A&P Summer Show - 8th and 9th December - Gate admission is \$5.00 per person, with under 5 year olds free year. The Suzie Moo Show will be held at the Summer Show at 10.00am; 12.00 noon; 2.00pm and 4.00pm.

Free 5 day School holidays learn-to-surf program for 11 to 17 year olds. Sandy Bay Tutukaka Coast Choose dates : Dec 17- 21 2012, or Jan 7-11, or 14-18, or 21-25 2013. Book now: Phone 434 4135 or email surf@tutukakasurf.co.nz

Lambs for Sale - 12+ weeks old, crutched & vaccinated \$80 each. Phone Helen 433 5512.

NYT Production - "The Blue Airplane" - 5th to 15th December 2012; for more info or tickets phone 438 4453 or email nytproduction@gmail.com

Whangarei Academy of Gymnastics (WAGS) new premises at the ASB Arena on Park Ave, Kensington. Lots more space, more classes - for all ages, toddlers, boys and girls. If you are interested, please ph our office on 4352990 or check out our new website www.wags.org.nz

Donations wanted for a Whangarei Family who lost all their belongings in a house fire early this month. Any donations would be appreciated. Please contact Melville & Ellis - 09 438 7022 for any further inquiries.

Cartooning workshops at the Quarry Arts Centre from 21st January, 1/2 day at \$30. Phone 431 2029 or <http://www.zengrenade.com/>

Grazing available in the Hikurangi area for up to 65 heifers, prefer R1yr and older - ph 433 8664"

Hurupaki Educare School Holiday Programmes Pre Christmas Holiday Programme - We will be opening on 19th, 20th & 21st December, in the Hurupaki School Hall, 8am to 5.30pm. January Holiday Programme - From Monday 7th January, 8.00am to 5.30pm. Trips include the movies, lion park, Glenbervie Adventure Forest, day trips to Reotahi and Wellington's Bay, Barge Park and more. OSCAR accredited, families can apply for WINZ assistance. Contact Christine on 0274821331.

Fundraising

STILL OUTSTANDING - Chocolates and or Chocolate money was due back at school weeks ago... please return your money, chocolates or a combination of both urgently. *Thank you* for your support.